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May 2, 2013

The Honorable Robert Perciasepe  
Acting Administrator  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W  
Mail Code 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Via email: [perciasepe.bob@epa.gov](mailto:perciasepe.bob@epa.gov)

Re: Keep 30 day comment period for Bristol Bay Assessment

Dear Administrator Perciasepe:

Nunamta Aulukestai appreciates the effort the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invested in authoring and revising the draft Bristol Bay Assessment and the agency's continued commitment to releasing the Assessment prior to the summer fishing season. This document is a significant achievement for EPA and the people of Bristol Bay. The Assessment will greatly assist the public, regional stakeholders and local, state and federal decision-makers to better understand the cultures, economies, and environments of our region and the threats that large scale mining would pose to our cultures, economies, and environments.

We strongly urge EPA to keep to the original 30-day public comment period for the Bristol Bay Assessment. A 30-day comment period ensures that EPA will maintain its schedule and commitment to the people of the region who are most impacted by large scale extractive industries, such as mining.

We believe, and as EPA has acknowledged, there has been extensive public comment and scientific peer review of the earlier draft. Extending the current comment period would adversely impact the people of the region. The current schedule is equitable for all parties who are now taking the opportunity to comment on this critical national issue and look forward to a final Bristol Bay Assessment as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Williams  
Executive Director